FACT SHEET Update: 06/05/06

GILA NATIONAL FOREST - Fire Update Fire Info: 505-388-8245/505-538-1426 (cell)

www.fs.fed.us/r3/qila



Wildland Fire Use – All fires were lightning-caused.

Wildland Fire Use is the management of naturally-ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific pre-stated resource management objectives in predefined geographic areas outlined in Fire Management Plans.

<u>Taylor Fire</u>: Black Range Ranger District, detected on 5/15/06, located 80 miles northwest of Truth or Consequences, NM, south of Wall Lake and west of Forest Road 150. Current size is 1780 acres. The fire is burning in ponderosa pine stringers along drainages and on piñon-juniper south-facing slopes and ridge tops. Recent fire growth has been minimal with the fire moving slowly to the west and south in pine stringers. Fire managers feel the fire will require minimal personnel to monitor. Twelve personnel and 2 engines are currently assigned to the fire. Daily monitoring of the fire continues. For specific information about the Taylor Fire, call 505-894-6677.

<u>Saliz Fire</u>: Reserve Ranger District, detected on 5/15/06, located 8 miles southeast of Reserve, NM. Current size is 10 acres. No new fire growth. Monitoring activities continue. For specific information about the Saliz Fire, call 505-533-6231.

<u>Vigil Fire</u>: Glenwood District, detected on 6/02/06, located 7 miles west of Alma, NM. The Fire is approximately 12 acres and is burning in grass, piñon-juniper and a small amount of ponderosa pine. A crew of 2 to 6 District personnel will monitor the fire and protect any range developments. For specific information about the Vigil Fire, call 505-539-2481.

<u>Skates Fire</u>: Silver City Ranger District, detected on *6/02/06*, located 7 miles northeast of Pinos Altos, NM and near the Continental Divide Trail. The fire is approximately seven acres and burning in piñon-juniper and ponderosa pine. Very limited new fire growth. Monitoring activities continue. For specific information about the Skates Fire, call 505-388-8245.

Wildland fires - lightning-caused.

Wildland Fire: Any non-structure fire, other than prescribed fire, that occurs in the wildland.

New Starts reported on June 2, 2006. All fires were lightning-caused.

In addition to the two new wildland fire use fires, 7 new starts were confirmed between June 1 and June 4. The Bosque Fire near Lake Roberts was reported late on June 1. It was controlled at .25 ac. The Adair and Hand Fires, 3 and 5 miles south of Luna, were confirmed on June 2 and have been called out. The Prairie Fire, 7 miles west of Reserve, was confirmed on June 2 and has been controlled at less than 1 acre. The McMillen and Hockey Fires, 3 and 5 miles northeast of Pinos Altos on the Silver City District, were confirmed on June 3 and controlled at less than 1 acre. The Black Fire located 15 miles northeast of Mimbres started on June 3 and was contained on June 4 at 10 acres. Fire fighters continue to monitor fire lines around the Black Fire. Most areas that received lightning also received some rain. Rainfall amounts ranged from a trace to over 1 ½ inches on Hillsboro Peak.

No structures have been threatened by any of the fires. Assigned resources have been successful in carrying out all operations and firefighting tactics on all incidents in a safe and effective manner.

Restrictions

The Gila National Forest is currently in Stage I Fire and Smoking restrictions. Open campfires are limited to designated campgrounds only and smoking is prohibited, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is cleared of flammable material. The list of campgrounds where campfires are still allowed is listed within the official order 06-248, which is posted on the website at: http://www2.srs.fs.fed.us/r3/gila/fire/forestclosure.asp.

For more information about the current fire activity on the Gila National Forest, contact the Information Office at 388-8245 or visit the website at www.fs.fed.us/r3/gila.

Information about all current federal and state land restrictions and closures in New Mexico and Arizona can be found by visiting the website: http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc/information/firerestrictions_closures.htm ####